

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A masking member used to protect a bolt hole with a part around the periphery of said hole on which a washer is put or to protect a harness hole with a part around the periphery of said hole on which a stand of a plug of said harness hole is put, said part around the periphery of said bolt hole having a corresponding shape fitting exactly to the shape of said washer and said part around the periphery of said harness hole having a corresponding shape fitting exactly to the shape of the stand of the plug, said masking member comprising a stand base upon which there are a plural number of snapping grooves on either side arranged at regular intervals dividing it into a plural number of unit blocks, a tapering insert part projecting from one side of each unit block and a knob projecting from the other side of each unit block and said unit block having a shape corresponding to said part, said masking member being made of a foamed polystyrene panel having an expansion ratio in the range of between 5 and 100 times wherein said snapping grooves are formed at set positions on ~~one or~~ either side of said panel, dividing it into a plural number of unit blocks as aforesaid, and in a case where said grooves are formed on ~~one side of said panel~~, the depth of said grooves is set to be in the range of between 10 and 70 % of the thickness of said panel, and in a case where said grooves are formed wherein the sum of the depths of a pair of said grooves reciprocally at corresponding

positions on either side of said panel [[,]] is set to be in the range of between 10 and 70 % of the thickness of said panel, and wherein the width of each groove is within the range of 0.1 to 5 mm so that when said masking member is snapped along one or more of said ~~groove or~~ grooves, the edge of said masking member along said ~~groove~~ one or more grooves becomes substantially straight.

Claims 2 - 3 (cancelled)

Claim 4 (previously presented): A masking member in accordance with claim 1, wherein an adhesive layer is formed on one side of said panel.

Claims 5 - 7 (cancelled)

Claim 8 (currently amended): A masking member in accordance with claim [[6]] 1, wherein a rib is formed around each inserting part ~~of said panel~~.